

# Securing Financial Aid Awards

## Theme and Level

**Theme:** Make Plans

**Level:** Next Steps

## At a Glance

Students use CIS Financial Aid Sort and create a list of scholarships for further investigation.

**Time:** 50 minutes.

## Essential Questions

- What scholarships best match me?
- How do I manage the scholarship application process?

## Preparation

- Secure computer lab with overhead projector enabled and CIS access
- Make copies of *Securing Financial Aid Awards Worksheet*, one per student.

## Steps

1. Show PowerPoint (PPT) Slide 1. Tell students that the goal of this lesson is for each of them to create a list of scholarships that match their preferences for further exploration.
2. Show PPT Slide 2. Ask students “Have you thought about applying for scholarships yet? Allow students to share what they have done so far.
3. Tell students, “You are more likely to get scholarships if you have a program of study (degree) plan in mind. This plan can change but many scholarships are associated with a specific field or program of study. This activity will you find scholarships that match you and your goals.” Distribute the *Securing Financial Aid Worksheets*.
4. Show PPT Slide 3. Review the instruction for completing the worksheet on page 1 of the worksheet.
5. Show students where to find Financial Aid Sort in CIS (Under the Education Tab).
6. Demonstrate Financial Aid Sort in CIS.
7. Provide students 15 minutes to use Financial Aid Sort.
8. Ask students to share their results by asking how many scholarships were on their lists, and if they found some appropriate possibilities.
9. Tell students to save their results and place a star next to any scholarships of high interest.
10. Show Slide 4. Ask students to complete the Award Tracking Table on page 2 of the worksheet. Provide ten minutes for this activity. Explain that staying organized using this table will be crucial during the busy fall of senior year.
11. Remind students that the school counseling staff and their families can provide important support during this demanding time.
12. Walk around the room and assist students as they create their tracking tables.
13. Show PPT Slide 5. Ask students to share their next steps for scholarship application.

## Variations and Accommodations

- Put students who need extra assistance in pairs while completing these activities.
- Financial Aid Sort could be completed with a teacher, advisor, or family member outside of class and then Award Tracking Tables drafted and reviewed in class.
- A school counselor could come to class and lead this activity.

## Assessment

Use the *Securing Financial Aid Awards Scoring Guide* to evaluate student work.

## Portfolio

Students enter their learning reflections in text box within the Next Steps: Make Plans, Financial Plans section of My Career Plan. The following box needs to be completed:

**What are your financial plans now?**

## Materials

Computer lab with an overhead projector and CIS access

[Securing Financial Aid Awards \(PPTX\)](#)

[Securing Financial Aid Awards Scoring Guide \(PDF\)](#)

[Securing Financial Aid Awards Scoring Guide \(DOCX\)](#)

[Securing Financial Aid Awards \(PDF\)](#)

[Securing Financial Aid Awards \(DOCX\)](#)

## Goals and Standards

### *Common Core State Standards*

- English and Language Arts Career Anchor: Reading Informational Text
- English and Language Arts Career Anchor: Writing
- English and Language Arts Career Anchor: Speaking & Listening

### *National Career Development Guidelines*

- GOAL CM3 Use accurate, current and unbiased career information during career planning and management.
- GOAL CM1 Create and manage a career plan that meets your career goals.

### *American School Counselor Association*

- Personal-Social, Academic Development, Career Development

*Bloom's Taxonomy:* Creating, Analyzing, Applying

### *American School Counselor Association (ASCA) Mindsets and Behaviors for Student Success*

#### Mindset Standards

- Self-Confidence in Ability to Succeed
- Sense of Belonging in the School Environment
- Positive Attitude Toward Work and Learning

#### Behavior Standards: Learning Strategies

- Demonstrate Critical-Thinking Skills to Make Informed Decisions
- Apply Self-Motivation and Self-Direction to Learning
- Apply Media and Technology Skills
- Identify long- and short-term Academic, Career and Social/Emotional Goals
- Gather Evidence and Consider Multiple Perspectives to Make Informed Decisions

#### Behavior Standards: Self-Management Skills

- Demonstrate Ability to Assume Responsibility

- Demonstrate Ability to Work Independently

#### Behavior Standards: Social Skills

- Use Effective Oral and Written Communication Skills and Listening Skills
- Create Positive and Supportive Relationships with Other Students
- Use Effective Collaboration and Cooperation Skills
- Use Leadership and Teamwork Skills to Work Effectively in Diverse Teams
- Demonstrate Social Maturity and Behaviors Appropriate to the Situation and Environment